

## 2022 KPA Legislative Priorities

1. **Ban Conversion Therapy:** This bill would prohibit any MH professional from practicing conversion therapy with a minor and make them subject to disciplinary action by their licensure board
2. Support adding a cultural competence requirement as a required 3-hour CE for license renewal (no increase in the total number of CE hours required per renewal cycle)
3. Support Medicaid reimbursement to include psychology doctoral interns and post-docs
4. **Oppose Corporal Punishment in Schools:** This bill would ban corporal punishment from being used in any Kentucky public school.
5. Support comprehensive healthy relationship/sex education in Kentucky public schools; there is research that shows a correlation between comprehensive health education and reductions in sexual assault, dating violence and homophobia.
6. Support increased funding for Kentucky's Community Mental Health Centers which have not had an increase in Medicaid rates since 1999.
7. Support a sustainable funding source for a national 9-8-8 suicide prevention/mental health crisis line and call centers across Kentucky.
8. Support a requirement that insurers cover the cost of an Annual Mental Health Wellness Examination done by a licensed Mental Health provider.
9. Oppose Anti-Critical Race Theory legislation due to its impact on prohibiting the teaching of race, religion, and sex in education, also impacting the teaching of psychology in higher education
10. Support for legislation that would counter discriminatory practices that disparately criminalize substance abuse among pregnant women of color compared to offering treatment options for other groups
11. Support for Crisis Aversion, Rights Retention (CARR) bill that would strengthen suicide and homicide prevention by removing guns from persons who are in crisis and are a danger to self or others.

12. Support the recommendations of the legislative SMI Task Force

**Here are some of KPA's past legislative priorities that are more general and allow us to respond to legislation filed during each session quickly:**

13. Support legislation that increases access to behavioral health services and supports a positive climate for psychology providers.

14. Support legislation to strengthen PARITY of behavioral health with physical health in all aspects of coverage, benefits, and cost.

15. Support legislation that would Increase psychology's voice in decisions affecting behavioral health, including support for evidence-based treatments and opposition to treatments found to cause harm.

16. Support legislation that improves health equity for historically marginalized populations including legislation that seeks to address racism and other system inequities.

17. Uphold public protection by opposing legislation allowing non-psychologists to deliver services which are clearly defined as the practice of psychology.

18. Support legislation designed to address social determinants of health to improve population health outcomes in Kentucky.

19. Maintain Medicaid coverage for all Kentuckians below 138% of the federal poverty level, particularly if the ACA is repealed.

20. Adopt federal advocacy priorities aligned with APA's Advocacy Priorities